

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY Philippines/China

SUBJECT Reactions of Philippine Chinese to Possible Ascendance of MAO Tse-tung in World Communist Movement

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DEFINITIVE.
CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
SEE REVERSE)

1. As a result of the death of Marshall Stalin, and his replacement as Soviet Premier by Georgi Malenkov, many Chinese residents of the Philippines initially were inclined to believe that since Chinese Communist leader MAO Tse-tung apparently has been projected into a possibly ascendent position in the world Communist movement, he deserves the support of overseas Chinese in the Philippines because of his potential ability to afford them future protection from the persecution they have received from the Philippine Government.

2. Notwithstanding this initial consideration by many Philippine Chinese of MAO as potentially a protector of the overseas Chinese community, by 13 March 1952, no indications of a significant change in the attitudes of Philippine Chinese toward MAO and the Chinese Communist Government could be discerned.

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Comment. [] has expressed the opinion that the great majority of the Chinese residing in the Philippines characteristically display only a slight interest in international political developments. [] also expressed the opinion, based on his extensive contacts within the Philippine Chinese community, that Philippine Chinese in general appear to have given little serious thought to the question of the possible ascendancy of MAO and the Chinese Communist Government in the world Communist movement.

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Comment. The outbreak of hostilities in Korea, and the subsequent Chinese Communist intervention, were not marked by a significant resurgence of Chinese Communist influence in the Philippine Chinese community.

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